ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

AND OF THE

Receipts and Expenditures

OF THE

TOWN OF PALMER,

For the Year ending March, 1872.

PALMER, MASS.:
JOURNAL PRESS.—G. M. FISK & CO.
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ASSESSORS' REPORT.

Valuation of Palmer, May 1, 1871 :-

Real estate,	$913,360 00
Personal estate,	421,734 00
Total valuation,	$1,335,094 00

APPROPRIATIONS.

State tax,	$3,575 00
County tax,	1,558 13
Schools,	4,500 00
Highways,	2,000 00
Bridges,	1,000 00
Support of Poor,	800 00
Reducing town debt,	5,000 00
Interest,	1,000 00
Lock-up,	1,000 00
Contingencies,	2,000 00
Overlaying on taxes,	529 09
	$22,962 22

Whole number of polls, 818.
Tax on polls, including highway, $2.45.
Rate of taxation, $1.57 to $100.00, including highway tax.

JOHN CLOUGH,
E. B. GATES,
C. C. SHAW,
} *Assessors of Palmer.*

TREASURER'S REPORT

OF THE RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH, 1872.

RECEIPTS.

Balance in Treasury, March 7, 1871,	$2,853 31
Received of State Treasurer, State aid, 1870,	1,300 00
State Treasurer, Corporation tax,	547 24
" " National Bank tax,	362 31
" " Income Mass. School fund,	255 25
County Treasurer, Dog tax,	347 13
Merrick fund (interest),	55 97
Rent of School-house hall at Duckville,	52 20
" " " Thorndike,	43 50
" " " Depot,	25 00
Town of Chicopee, for support of C. A. Pattrell,	46 10
Town of Monson,	1 30
C. R. Shaw, for books,	3 68
Cash for old windows,	4 00
Daniel Downing,	4 02
P. W. Webster, circus license,	15 00
P. W. Webster,	3 75
J. A. Palmer, school-house tax,	475 57
J. A. Palmer, tax 1870,	1,950 00
G. A. King, tax 1871,	18,639 43
J. M. Converse, balance on horse rake,	11 00
	$26,995 76

EXPENDITURES.

Paid for support of schools,	$5,673 61
Repairing school-houses,	963 92
Repairing highways,	2,174 57
Repairing bridges,	1,113 48
Interest on notes,	675 00
Reducing town debt,	4,922 77
State aid,	1,191 50
Contingencies,	2,483 25
Paupers,	1,851 06
State tax,	3,575 00
County tax,	1,558 13
	$26,182 29
Total Receipts,	$26,995 76
Total Expenditures,	$26,182 29
Balance in the Treasury,	$813 47

Respectfully submitted,

JAS. B. SHAW, *Treasurer.*

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

EXPENDITURES FOR SCHOOLS.

Paid for teachers,	$4,976 98
Town of Wilbraham, schooling children, 1870,	12 45
Town of Ware, schooling children, 1870,	10 00
Wm. Francis, sawing wood, Thorndike,	7 20
J. M. Buffington, wood furnished, Three Rivers,	4 87
A. A. Gamwell, care school-house, Depot,	42 00
J. F. Holbrook, coal for Depot,	77 25
T. H. Reed & Co., mdse for Depot,	3 29
Wood & Allen, mdse for schools,	25 15
H. Hunt, wood, Centre house,	3 50
S. Ruggles, coal for schools,	78 75
W. C. Robbins, care school-house, Three Rivers,	9 00
J. C. Burnham, wood for Mason dis't,	20 75
Wm. Fenton, wood, Blanchard "	6 75
D. E. & J. M. Tenney, wood, Three Rivers dis't,	42 00
S. Ruggles, wood, Duckville dis't,	21 45
H. Shumway, care Duckville school-house,	7 50
Elisha Warner, cutting wood, Centre dis't,	6 50
Wm. Fenton, wood for Blanchard,	8 75
Wood & Allen, mdse for Depot,	9 05
Frank Shepardson, care school-house Three Rivers,	10 00
Wm. C. Robbins, cutting wood " "	5 81
J. Harrington, care school-house " "	10 00
F. Collis, " " Duckville,	12 00
P. P. & T. D. Potter, wood for Thorndike,	13 00
Wm. Fenton, wood for Blanchard,	9 62
Geo. Cobb, care Depot school-house,	20 00
B. M. Fullerton, cash paid for cutting wood, &c.,	26 13
Beri Johnson, wood for Depot,	2 50
Wood & Allen, books and stationery,	15 55
Wm. Francis, care of house & cutting wood Thorndike,	63 25
S. Ruggles, cash paid for care of house at Centre,	6 50
S. Ruggles, " " " " Hastings,	3 00
S. Ruggles, books, stationery, crayons for schools,	95 06
Fred Stone, care school-house, Blanchard's,	6 00
L. Conant, " " "	2 00
	$5,673 61

REPAIRS ON SCHOOL HOUSES.

Paid E. Warriner, labor on Centre school-house,	$137 11
S. Ruggles, mdse for " "	291 19
S. Ruggles, " " "	163 69
E. Merriam, labor on " "	18 97
S. Ruggles, seats for " "	132 29
J. Gamwell, fixing water Depot "	10 42
C. A. Brown & Co., water fixtures Depot school-house,	14 32
Geo. Robinson, lock for Depot school-house,	1 76
Miller & Sexton, painting and whitewashing,	63 48
N. Howard, labor on Depot and Centre,	12 25
H. G. Loomis, chairs for Depot,	11 00
A. M. Bond, repairs on Thorndike house,	19 50
L. F. Shepardson, repairs on Three Rivers house,	4 00
C. A. Brown & Co., mdse for school-house,	13 30
J. W. Adams, cash paid out for Duck. school-house,	3 45
S. Ruggles, repairs Thorndike "	30 32
S. Ruggles, cash paid for labor on Centre "	20 00
Geo. Robinson, hardware for school-houses,	16 87
	$963 92

PAUPERS.

Paid Charles Sherman, cash paid for cutting wood on Poor farm,	$20 00
A. Loomis, buggy for Poor farm,	125 00
Chapin Warner, support of Mrs. Thompson,	17 00
Mrs. Bottomly, cash for her support,	20 00
Murdock & Bro., mdse for Fitzgerald family,	259 24
Wood & Allen, mdse for E. Strickland,	6 15
S. W. Smith, mdse for Poor farm,	190 61
Joseph Thompson, cash paid E. Ryan,	42 00
J. D. Blanchard, plaster for Poor farm,	22 31
P. Trumbull, labor and horse rake for Poor farm,	58 75
Town of Shutesbury, support of Keyes Bacon,	52 00
Murdock & Andrews, mdse for Poor farm,	62 45
C. D. Foster, moving Mrs. Thayer,	4 50
J. P. Shaw, goods for paupers,	13 25
R. Stevens, cow for Poor farm,	50 00
Jas. Burpee, cutting wood Poor farm,	10 63
G. A. Keith, wood for A. Merriam,	6 50
Chas. Sherman, cash paid out for Poor farm,	32 82
Silas Ruggles, services for paupers,	39 00
J. B. Shaw, mdse for paupers,	7 63
Amount brought forward,	$1,039 84

Amount brought forward,	$1,039 84
Paid P. W. Webster, cash paid out for State paupers,	16 92
J. S. Loomis, " " "	7 75
E. G. Murdock, " " "	5 30
Wm. Holbrook, medical attendance,	7 00
Town of Chicopee, for burying Peter Geraw,	12 00
City of Charlestown, support of A. Rogers and wife,	33 85
Northampton Hospital, support of Mrs. Gerald,	109 73
Taunton " " Elizabeth Carson,	196 40
H. G. Loomis, coffins for State paupers,	50 00
H. G. Loomis, " " Town "	20 00
Chapin Warner, support of Mrs. Thompson,	47 75
Town of Granby, " " "	57 47
Horace Walker, taking care of Gully family,	70 00
C. H. Murdock, mdse for " "	4 20
Mr. Randall, assisting burying Mr. Gully,	2 50
For support of Mrs. Mason,	170 35
	$1,851 06

HIGHWAYS.

Paid Beri Johnson, putting up railing,	$39 00
John A. Squier, labor,	334 82
J. M. Buffington, "	307 00
J. O. Hamilton, "	105 10
Samuel Brown, "	100 00
Joshua Graves, "	92 50
John Graves, repairing road, 1869,	10 00
Geo. D. Mooers, labor,	412 11
A. P. Whipple, "	110 00
M. C. Fenton, "	100 00
Eugene Shorly, "	81 00
E. B. Gates, " 1870,	4 50
Geo. King, "	121 00
M. Whitney, "	281 74
H. C. Smith, "	75 80
	$2,174 57

BRIDGES.

Paid Thorndike Co., plank,	$2 85
P. W. Webster, labor and material for Three Rivers bridge,	330 00
Wm. Fenton, plank for Fenton bridge,	7 80
H. Hathaway, repairing bridge near his house,	20 00
P. P. & T. D. Potter, plank and timber,	234 96
Amount carried forward,	$595 61

Amount brought forward,	$595 61
Paid P. W. Webster, labor on Blanchard bridge,	55 95
J. D. Blanchard, labor and material at Blanchard's,	93 60
Chas. Hastings, putting in culvert,	25 00
Thorndike Co., plank and labor,	18 53
L. F. Whiting, fixing bridge,	2 00
Jas. Calkins, labor on bridge,	6 00
Beri Johnson, repairing Bondville bridge,	10 00
P. W. Webster, cash paid for use of derrick,	14 00
E. M. Bartlett, plank,	17 40
T. O. Kent, labor on bridges,	51 50
P. P. & T. D. Potter, plank and timber,	169 71
C. W. Hastings & Co., repairing bridge,	3 00
G. W. Randall, repairing bridge, Three Rivers,	12 50
Geo. Robinson, hardware for bridges,	38 68
	$1,113 48

CONTINGENCIES.

Paid Irishman, damage on goods,	$6 00
J. K. Knox, water on highway 1870,	5 00
C. R. Shaw, services school committee,	15 00
Steven Place, care of J. Bagly,	46 00
John Smith, services in Thompson will case,	25 00
Alexander Maxwell, damage to wagon,	2 00
E. L. Paul, keeping Bagly's horse,	6 00
John Clough, services assessor,	66 00
John Clough, copying valuation 1872,	14 00
John Clough, books and stationery for assessors,	15 05
A. Loomis, repairing hearses,	40 75
G. M. Fisk & Co., printing town warrants,	24 25
G. M. Fisk & Co., printing town reports, 1870,	64 00
Stearns & Knowlton, counsel on Thompson will,	50 00
H. Smith, putting up railing at Blanchard's,	23 00
A. M. Bradley, expenses of sheriff jury,	62 20
E. B. Gates, copying valuation,	14 00
Chas. Sherman, salary poor farm,	300 00
Wm. Thompson, land damage,	227 50
E. Ryther, setting glass, town house,	1 50
C. C. Shaw, services assessor,	27 00
Jonathan McElwain, opening graves, &c.,	29 80
L. M. Squier, opening graves,	3 50
J. K. King, water on highway,	5 00
Ephraim B. Gates, services assessor,	74 00
Robert McMaster, opening graves and returning deaths,	9 25
L. F. Shepardson, services school committee,	82 50
Amount carried forward, (2)	$1,238 30

Amount brought forward,	$1,238 30
Paid J. H. Keith, putting up railing,	9 75
B. M. Fullerton, services school committee,	98 50
John Clough, abating taxes, '69 and '71,	3 25
L. A. Nelson, notifying town officers,	12 70
P. W. Webster, expenses out town,	22 75
P. W. Webster, services selectman,	125 00
P. W. Webster, overseer of poor,	40 00
P. W. Webster, filling blanks for State alms-house,	60 00
J. B. Shaw, services treasurer,	100 00
J. B. Shaw, services town clerk, recording births, marriages and deaths,	75 00
D. Knox, going with hearse, opening graves and returning deaths,	183 00
S. Ruggles, services school committee,	110 00
J. S. Loomis, services selectman,	100 00
J. S. Loomis, services overseer of poor,	20 00
J. S. Loomis, expenses out of town,	7 00
E. G. Murdock, services selectman,	89 00
E. G. Murdock, services overseer of poor,	63 00
J. A. Palmer, services collecting taxes 1870,	84 50
Wm. Holbrook, attendance at court,	40 00
James Bradley, returning deaths,	1 50
	$2,483 25

REDUCING TOWN DEBT.

Paid Jotham Shaw, note and interest,	$527 50
Mrs. Mary Foskit, note and interest,	1,701 74
Horace Hunn, " "	863 45
J. S. Loomis, " "	738 48
Samuel Haines, notes and "	1,091 60
	$4,922 77

SUMMARY.

Paid for schools,	$5,673 61
Repairing school-houses,	963 92
Highways,	2,174 57
Bridges,	1,113 48
Interest on notes,	675 00
Contingencies,	2,483 25
Paupers,	1,851 06
Reduction of town debt,	4,922 77
Aid to soldiers and families,	1,191 50
State tax,	3,575 00
County tax,	1,558 13
	$26,182 29

DEBTS OF THE TOWN.

Notes due on demand:		
Reuben Rogers,	$1,650 00	
Mrs. Mary B. Webster,	450 00	
		$2,100 00
Notes due in two years:		
Robert McMaster,	$1,500 00	
Ralph Green,	1,000 00	
Waterman Fuller,	500 00	
Susan Fenton,	500 00	
Susan E. Rogers,	500 00	
		$4,000 00
Notes due in seven years:		
Robert McMaster,	$1,500 00	
A. N. Dewey,	1,400 00	
J. K. Child (adm'r),	1,500 00	
		$4,400 00
		10,500 00
Interest on the above,		651 00
		$11,151 00

AMOUNT OF CLAIMS AGAINST THE TOWN, MARCH 7, 1872.

Notes and interest,	$11,151 00	
Due G. A. King, salary,	115 00	
		$11,266 00

DUE THE TOWN.

Balance in Treasury, March 7, 1872,	$813 47	
From State, for State aid, 1871,	1,206 00	
From " " " paupers,	50 00	
From J. A. Palmer, collector, 1870,	157 60	
From G. A. King, " 1871,	3,293 86	
		5,520 93
Balance against the town,		$5,745 07

J. S. LOOMIS,
E. G. MURDOCK,
P. W. WEBSTER,
Selectmen of Palmer.

Report of Overseers of the Poor.

For the Year ending March 1, 1872.

Inventory, March 1, 1871,	$1,535 35	
Interest on cost of farm,	180 00	
Superintendent's salary,	300 00	
Expenses out,	637 10	
		$2,652 45

RECEIPTS.

Inventory, March 1, 1872,	$1,659 00	
Receipts from poor farm,	137 92	
		$1,796 92
		$855 53

Paid out for State paupers, $74 67

Whole number of paupers, 20

Number of State paupers lodged and fed at poor-house, 49

J. S. LOOMIS,
E. G. MURDOCK,
P. W. WEBSTER,
} *Overseers of the Poor.*

TOWN WARRANT.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

HAMPDEN, ss.

To George A. King, Constable of the Town of Palmer, Greeting:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn all the inhabitants of the town of Palmer, qualified to vote in elections and town affairs, to meet at the Town Hall in said Palmer, on Monday, the 18th day of March, instant, at 10 o'clock A. M., to act on the following articles, viz:—

ARTICLE 1. To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.

ART. 2. To determine the number of Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor, Assessors, School Committee, and Constables the town will choose for the ensuing year.

ART. 3. To elect all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year.

ART. 4. To act upon the report of the School Committee, Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor, and other town officers.

ART. 5. To raise such sums of money as are necessary to defray the current expenses of the town for the ensuing year.

ART. 6. To see if the town will raise any money to reduce the debt of the town.

ART. 7. To determine the manner of repairing the highways and bridges for the ensuing year.

ART. 8. To determine the manner the town will take to collect the taxes that may be assessed, and state the terms and conditions of the same.

ART. 9. To see if the town will allow a discount upon the taxes that may be assessed the ensuing year.

ART. 10. To see if the town will make any by-laws and regulations to prevent the pasturing of cattle and other animals upon the streets and highways of the town.

ART. 11. To see if the town will accept the list of Jurors as revised by the Selectmen.

ART. 12. To choose Committees and give them instructions.

ART. 13. To hear reports of Committees and act thereon.

ART. 14. To see if the town will vote to build a new School House east of L. F. Whiting's, on the site of the old Newell house, and appropriate money for the same.

ART. 15. To see if the town will vote to instruct the Selectmen or School Committee to provide conveyance to and from school, for such scholars as may be deprived of schooling on account of distance.

ART. 16. To see if the town will instruct the Selectmen to lay out a road in Duckville or Bondville, as follows, to wit:—Commencing at an oak tree

southerly of the house of Michael Griffin ; thence in a westerly direction past the house of said Griffin and along an old road to a point east side of house of Merrick Whitney ; thence commencing on line of said proposed road at a point near the house of said Griffin ; thence in an easterly direction past the houses of Morris Connor, John Connor, John Griffin, Thomas Griffin, to a point near the house of Timothy Lines.

ART. 17. To see if the town will instruct the Selectmen to lay out a road at or near the house formerly owned by Henry Starks, running by Humphrey Sullivan and John Cavin's house to the house of Patrick Clifford.

ART. 18. To see if the town will vote to pay Jason A. Palmer for posting up town warrants for the year 1870.

ART. 19. To see if the town will indemnify P. W. Webster against all costs and damage that may accrue on account of a suit commenced against him by A. N. Dewey for removing earth from side of highway in his capacity as highway surveyor.

The names of Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor, Assessors, School Committee and Constables who are voted for, must be all on one ballot; Town Clerk and Treasurer on a separate ballot. And you are hereby requested to serve this warrant by posting up attested copies thereof at the different public places designated by a vote of the town, seven days, at least, before the holding of said meeting, and cause this warrant to be printed in a newspaper called the Palmer Journal, at two issues before the time of holding said meeting. Hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk, on or before the time of said meeting.

Given under our hands this fourth day of March, A. D. 1872.

J. S. LOOMIS,
E. G. MURDOCK,
PARKER W. WEBSTER,
} *Selectmen of Palmer.*

Report of the Committee on Schools.

Your Committee will not indulge in many details respecting the condition of the Schools maintained in this town during the past year. We have employed a large proportion of Normal school graduates, and find this result.

The Normal system works well in the case of those of its professors and teachers who, other things being equal, show flexibility in its application.

In order to force our expenditures within an amount as nearly as possible to the appropriation for this department, we have secured the best talents we could for the least remuneration we have had the face to offer. Besides, the school year was made two weeks shorter than usual, in the case of all the schools but one, with a view to contract the outlay as much as was feasible, while affording the out districts longer terms than they enjoyed the last year. The latter plan was adopted in harmony with what seemed to be the wish of the town.

A large majority of the schools have been successfully conducted. If this statement is erroneous, citizens, by reason of their frequent personal inspection of their working, can refute us. The house at the Centre has been remodeled and thoroughly repaired, in accordance with a vote of the town.

We recommend the sale of the school houses in the localities known as the "Hastings and Foster districts," and the building of a new house, at a point north and near Newell's pond. Such a building will fairly accommodate the scholars of both "districts," there being less than thirty who need school privileges in that whole vicinity.

It will be desirable to put new seats into one of the upper rooms of the school house in Thorndike. If the town will also make an appropriation for painting the school buildings in Thorndike and Bond's village, it will be good economy.

As we have said, a majority of the teachers have worked faithfully and well. Without characterizing them individually, we submit the accompanying statistics.

STATISTICS OF THE SCHOOLS.

SUMMER TERM.

LOCATION.	TEACHERS.	Wages	Time in Mos.	Whole No Schol.	Av No
Palmer High,	Mr. A. M. Bigelow,	$55 55	3	34	29
" Intermediate,	Miss M. E. Amidon,	40 00	3	41	33
" Primary,	Miss L. S. Blodgett,	35 00	3	59	39
Thorndike Grammar,	Miss I. E. Pierce,	50 00	3	33	25
" Intermediate,	Miss I. T. Pierce,	42 50	3	50	38
" Primary,	Miss L. Field,	35 00	3	46	28
Bond's Village Grammar,	Miss A. A. Brown,	35 00	3	21	14
" Intermediate,	Miss M. M. Munsing,	35 00	3	35	27
" Primary,	Miss E. E. Noble,	35 00	3	39	30
Three Rivers Grammar,	Miss S. F. Drury,	35 00	3	25	19
" " Primary,	Miss L. R. Warner,	35 00	3	44	29
Blanchardville,	Miss H. King,	35 00	3	34	32
Foster,	Miss E. M. Sanderson,	32 00	3	23	20
Mason,	Miss E. A. Graves,	32 00	2½	15	12
Shaw,	Miss A. T. Hurlbut,	35 00	3	9	6

FALL TERM.

LOCATION.	TEACHERS.	Wages	Time in Mos.	Whole No Schol.	Av No
Palmer High,	Mr. A. M. Bigelow,	$55 55	3	32	26
" Intermediate,	Miss S. F. Drury,	40 00	2¾	35	29
" Primary,	Miss A. I. Sears,	35 00	3	47	36
Thorndike Grammar,	Miss I. E. Pierce,	50 00	3	32	23
" Intermediate,	Miss I. T. Pierce,	45 00	3	42	32
" Primary,	Miss L. Field,	36 00	3	38	23
Bond's Village Grammar,	Miss A. A. Brown,	35 00	3	18	11
" Intermediate,	Miss M. M. Munsing,	35 00	3	27	18
" Primary,	Miss E. E. Noble,	35 00	3	36	24
Three Rivers Grammar,	Miss S. Sedgwick, Miss C. A. Bushnell	36 25	3	21	17
" " Primary,	Miss L. R. Warner,	35 00	3	36	27
Centre,	Mrs. S. E. King,	40 00	3	53	45
Blanchardville,	Miss H. King,	35 00	3	31	28
Foster,	Miss E. J. Howard,	32 00	3	18	15
Mason,	Miss E. A. Graves,	32 00	3	17	14
Shaw,	Miss A. T. Hurlbut,	35 00	3	12	6

WINTER TERM.

LOCATION.	TEACHERS.	Wages	Time in Mos.	Whole No Schol.	Av No
Palmer High,	Mr. A. M. Bigelow,	$55 55	3	40	32
" Intermediate,	Miss S. F. Drury,	40 00	2½	31	25
" Primary,	Miss A. I. Sears,	35 00	2½	33	25
Thorndike Grammar,	Miss I. E. Pierce,	50 00	2½	26	19
" Intermediate,	Miss I. T. Pierce,	45 00	2½	33	24
" Primary,	Miss L. Field,	35 00	1 6/10	26	17
Bond's Village Grammar,	Miss M.C.Worthingt'n	40 00	2½	27	21
" Intermediate,	Miss L. S. Cook,	40 00	1½	35	26
" Primary,	Miss H. J. Morse,	35 00	2¼	41	32
Three Rivers Grammar,	Mr. E. M. Fullerton,	50 00	2½	36	25
" " Primary,	Miss L. S. Warner,	25 00	2½	29	27
Centre,	Mrs. S. E. King,	40 00	2½	43	40
Blanchardville,	Miss H. King,	35 00	2½	30	28
Hastings,	Miss A. T. Hurlbut,	35 00	2½	13	9
Mason,	Miss E. A. Graves,	34 00	2½	15	13

Whole number of scholars in town, 794; raised by tax, $4,500; School Fund, $255.25; Merrick Fund, $55.97; Dog money, $347.13; total, $5,158.35. Total expenditures for schools, (teachers, fuel and care of houses,) $5,526.50.

Respectfully submitted,

SILAS RUGGLES,
L. F. SHEPARDSON,
C. E. HILL,
B. M. FULLERTON,
} *Committee.*